

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

PEARCE, Steve (Republican)
Representative, 2nd District, New Mexico
Elected 2002 to 108th Congress



BACKGROUND

Born: City, State - 24 August 1947

Home: Hobbs, NM

Marital status: Married (Cynthia) - 1 child

Religion: Baptist

Education: New Mexico State U, BA (Economics), 1970; Eastern New Mexico U, MBA, 1991

Profession: Oil supply company owner

Military: Air Force, 1971-76, captain / pilot; awarded DFC and Air Medal. Stationed in the Philippines, flying missions into Vietnam; also served with SAC at Blytheville AFB, AR.

Political: New Mexico State House, 1996-2002. After winning the 2002 GOP primary against the hand-picked candidate of the retiring incumbent Rep Joe Skeen (R), won the general election with 56% of the vote in a four-way race.

Rep Pearce is a conservative. During the campaign, attempted to distinguish himself from his conservative Democratic opponent by warning that a possible Democrat as Speaker of the House would be damaging to the water and agricultural interests of the district. Issue resonated because of the recent severe drought in the region. Among his legislative priorities are protecting and enhancing funding for White Sands Missile Range and the national labs, pursuing what he characterizes as a sensible energy policy that encourages domestic production and exploration. Said national security and homeland security are vital. Spoke out against abortion, supported gun-ownership, and backed tax cuts. During the campaign highlighted his experience in Vietnam and accused his opponent of being "weak" on Iraq.

In the 108th Congress is seeking a seat on the Appropriations Committee.

Additional: Owns and pilots a Mooney airplane that he flies for pleasure. Life-long member and supporter of 4-H.. Has constituent interest in Ft Bliss, TX.

AF Bases: Holloman AFB

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